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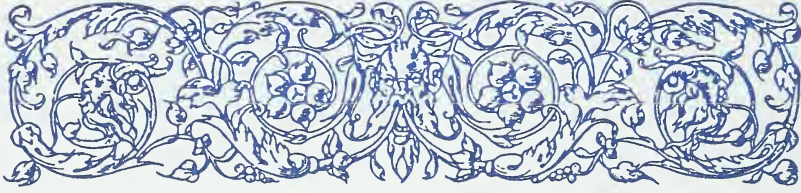
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# W. O. Atwater Memorial Lecture

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Research Service



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# CONSUMING PASSIONS

Energy Regulation, Biological Revolution,  
and Political Realities



M.R.C. Greenwood  
1995 W.O. Atwater Memorial Lecture  
Agricultural Research Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

*Cosponsored by the*  
American Institute of Nutrition

April 11, 1995  
Atlanta, Georgia



The annual W.O. Atwater Memorial Lectureship was established by the Agricultural Research Service in 1968 to honor the memory of a great scientist by recognizing scientists who have made unique contributions toward improving the diet and nutrition of people around the world.



Wilbur Olin Atwater (1844-1907), USDA's first chief of nutrition investigations, was the foremost pioneer in nutrition research and education in the United States. He is generally considered the father of modern human nutrition in this country because of his research on nutrients, proteins, and food composition.



Candidates may be suggested for the Lectureship each year in January by sending a letter of nomination and a current curriculum vitae to Lecture Coordinator, ARS Information Staff, 6303 Ivy Lane, Greenbelt, MD 20770. An impartial committee rates all nominees and then a final selection is made by the ARS administrator.



The Agricultural Research Service, the principal scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has a responsibility to develop knowledge and technology for the benefit of farmers and consumers. This responsibility includes promoting optimum human health and well-being through improved nutrition and increasing our understanding of nutritional requirements and how foods can supply them



The American Institute of Nutrition is the primary professional organization of nutrition research scientists in the United States. The Society was established in 1928 to develop and extend knowledge of nutrition and to facilitate personal contact between investigators in nutrition and related fields of interest. Most members of the Institute are university-based, basic researchers. Members are nominated and elected by their fellow scientists on the basis of demonstrated research competence and productivity in the field of experimental nutrition.



R.C. Greenwood is currently serving as the Associate Director for Science of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, while on leave from her position as Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of California at Davis. Dr. Greenwood has been an advocate for the critical need for research to help address problems of national and international importance. And, through her position with the Office of Science and Technology Policy, she has developed an Administration policy on fundamental research and on research stressing the connections among food, nutrition, and health.

Dr. Greenwood is also an internationally recognized expert in the area of obesity research and adipose tissue metabolism. Her research, which focuses on the genetic causes of obesity, has made use of a variety of animal models of obesity, but the results of her findings have had major implications in the understanding of obesity in humans. She has authored over 200 scientific publications and presentations.

Before joining the faculty of the University of California at Davis in 1989, Dr. Greenwood was chair of the Department of Biology and John Guy Vassar Professor of Natural Science at Vassar College. She has served as the director of the NIH Obesity Research Center Animal Model CORE Laboratory.

Dr. Greenwood has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards. In 1994, she received the Council of Scientific Society Presidents Award for Support of Science as well as the Award for Outstanding Achievements in Academic Research and Government Service in Support of the Nation's Well-Being Through Science and Technology from the Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education and the Council on Government Affairs of the National Association of State Universities



and Land-Grant Colleges. In 1982, she was honored for significant contributions to nutrition research by the American Institute of Nutrition. And she was elected to the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences in 1992.

In addition, Dr. Greenwood has served on the editorial boards of professional journals such as the International Journal of Obesity and Related Metabolic Disorders, Journal of Nutrition, Nutrition and Behavior, and the Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine. She has been chair of the Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences; a member of the U.S. Committee for the International Union of Nutritional Sciences; and vice president elect of The American Society for Clinical Nutrition.



## PREVIOUS LECTURERS

**1994, Irwin H. Rosenberg**, Jean Mayer Professor in Nutrition, Physiology, and Medicine at Tufts University and Director of the USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts.

**1993, Kenneth J. Carpenter**, Distinguished Scholar, University of California, Berkeley.

**1992, James A. Olson**, Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Iowa State University.

**1991, R. Gaurth Hansen**, Distinguished Provost Emeritus and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Nutrition and Food Sciences and Biochemistry, Utah State University.

**1990, Alfred E. Harper**, E.V. McCollum Professor of Nutrition, University of Wisconsin.

**1989, Helen A. Guthrie**, Professor and Head, Nutrition Department, The Pennsylvania State University.

**1988, John E. Kinsella**, Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of Food Chemistry and General Foods Distinguished Professor of Food Science, Cornell University.

**1987, Malden C. Nesheim**, Director, Division of Nutrition, Cornell University.



**1986, Elsie Widdowson**, Department of Medicine, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, England.

**1985, Mark Hegsted**, Professor of Nutrition, New England Regional Primate Research Center.

**1984, Harold H. Sandstead**, Director, North Atlantic Area, Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University.

**1983, George H. Beaton**, Professor of Nutrition Science, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

**1982, Edwin M. Foster**, Director, Food Research Institute, University of Wisconsin.

**1981, Joaquin Cravioto**, Professor of Pediatrics and Scientific Director, National Institute for Children's Health Sciences and Technology, Mexico City.

**1980, Ancel Keys**, Professor, Division of Epidemiology, University of Minnesota.

**1979, Hector F. DeLuca**, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin.

**1978, Robert E. Olson**, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, St. Louis University.

**1977, Nevin S. Scrimshaw**, Institute Professor and Head of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**1976, Emil M. Mrak**, Chancellor Emeritus, University of California at Davis.

**1975, William J. Darby**, President, The Nutrition Foundation, Inc.

**1974, J. George Harrar**, President Emeritus, Rockefeller Foundation.

**1973, Marina N. Whitman**, Professor of Economics, University of Pittsburgh.

**1971, Jean Mayer**, Professor of Nutrition and Lecturer on the History of Public Health, Harvard University.

**1970, Philip Handler**, President, National Academy of Sciences, and Chairman of the National Research Council.

**1969, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi**, Director, Institute for Muscle Research, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

**1968, Artturi I. Virtanen**, Director, Biochemical Research Institute, Helsinki, Finland.

